

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DOTE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1982

INFO AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ

UNCLAS MEXICO 11262

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELTN, MX

SUBJ: EL PASO-CIUDAD JUAREZ STREETCARS

REF: A. CIUDAD JUAREZ A-19; B) PARSONS/LANE TELCON DECEMBER 19.

1. EMBASSY TCO TODAY SPOKE WITH LIC. ANTONIO BERNAL, GOM DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TOLL ROADS AND BRIDGES CONCERNING THE OFFER BY THE CITY OF EL PASO TO LEASE ITS STREETCARS TO MEXICO (REFAIR). BERNAL STATED THAT FINAL DECISION WAS NOT YET MADE AND THAT HE WILL BE IN CIUDAD JUAREZ DECEMBER 22-26 TO DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER.

2. BERNAL SAID THAT HIS ECONOMIC STUDY OF THE PROJECT WAS FAVORABLE AND THAT THE MAYOR AND ALL THE "POPULAR" AND LABOR ORGANIZATIONS OF CIUDAD JUAREZ WERE IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THE EL PASO PROPOSAL. THE POPULAR SECTOR EMPHASIZED THE INEXPENSIVENESS OF STREETCAR TRANSPORTATION WHILE THE LABOR GROUPS ARE INTERESTED IN THE FORMATION OF A COOPERATIVE TO OPERATE THE SYSTEM. ONLY OPPOSITION HE STATED, IS FROM THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MEMBERS OF WHICH HAVE VISITED MEXICO CITY AND SPOKEN TO GOM PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA.

3. BERNAL STATED THAT THE CURRENT BALANCE OF FORCES

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FAVORS ACCEPTANCE OF THE EL PASO OFFER, AND THE FINAL

DECISION, TO BE PERSONALLY MADE BY ECHEVERRIA, WILL BE
TAKEN IN JANUARY 1976.

4. ABOVE INFORMATION PASSED TO NESTOR VALENCIA,
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO EL PASO MAYOR DON HENDERSON, WHO
INFORMED TCO THAT ELECTION THIS WEEK OF CIUDAD JUAREZ
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OFFICIALS RESULTED IN DEFEAT OF MANY
OF THOSE IN OPPOSITION TO RESUMPTION OF STREETCAR SERVICE.

5. TCO WILL MEET WITH LIC. BERNAL ON HIS RETURN TO MEXICO
CITY WEEK OF JANUARY 5, 1976 TO DETERMINE RESULTS HIS
VISIT TO CIUDAD JUAREZ. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED PASS ABOVE
INFORMATION TO HAWLEY RICHESON, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
TO CONGRESSMAN WHITE.
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